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Message Text

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46
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-04 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10

RSC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /189 W
---------- 066313
R 231551Z NOV 73
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1411
INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AFIN UN AORG KS
SUBJECT: UN BUDGET: MEMORIAL CEMETERY IN KOREA

1. AT REQUEST OF DUTCH MISSION, REPS FROM COUNTRIES WHOSE MEN ARE INTERRED IN UN MEMORIAL CEMETERY IN KOREA MET NOVEMBER 21 TO DISCUSS FUTURE HANDLING OF KOREAN CEMETERY ITEM IN FIFTH COMITE. DURING DISCUSSION MEMBERS GENERALLY AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO REMOVE CONTENTIOUS POLITICAL ITEM FROM FIFTH COMITE CONSIDERATION OF SECTION 32 OF PROGRAM BUDGET. AMOUNT INVOLVED ($160,000) FOR NEXT BIENNIUM WAS SMALL.

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2. DUTCH REP (VAN DER KLAAUW) SAID THAT DECISION BY UNGA TO

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DISSOLVE UNCURK MEANT THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PROVISION FOR INSPECTION OF GRAVES. HE SUGGESTED THAT ARTICLE 9, PARA 1 OF 1959 AGREEMENT BETWEEN UN AND ROK MIGHT BE APPLIED AND THAT COMITE OF AMBASSADORS IN SEOUL FROM COUNTRIES WHOSE MEN ARE INTERRED IN CEMETERY WOULD INSTEAD REGULARLY INSPECT CEMETERY. KOREAN WAR GRAVES COMMISSIONER WOULD CONTINUE UPKEEP OF CEMETERY REPORTING TO COMITE COMPOSED OF AMBASSADORS.

3. VAN DER KLAAUW THEN OUTLINED TWO POSSIBLE WAYS OF FINANCING CEMETERY. FIRST WOULD BE TO SET UP SPECIAL UN TRUST FUND TO BE FINANCED THROUGH VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM COUNTRIES WITH MEN BURIED IN CEMETERY. HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT IF UN ADMINISTERED SUCH A TRUST FUND IT WOULD ALSO AUDIT FUND AND REPORT TO UNGA. THUS, WE WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE "KOREAN QUESTION" IN FINANCIAL CONTEXT.

4. AS SECOND CONSIDERATION DUTCH PROPOSED THAT ASSESSMENTS FOR CEMETERY BUDGET BE APPORTIONED AMONG 11 COUNTRIES WHOSE DECEASED ARE BURIED THERE. PAYMENTS WOULD BE CALCULATED ON COMBINATION (1) OF REGULAR UN SCALE OF ASSESSMENTS SHARED AMONG 11 COUNTRIES INVOLVED AND (2) SCALE BASED ON EACH NATION'S PERCENTAGE OF SOLDIERS INTERRED. THUS, UNDER THIS PROPOSAL US WOULD CONTRIBUTE $45,976 TO TOTAL COST OF CEMETERY UPKEEP FOR YEARS 1974-75 OF $160,000. THIS AMOUNT WOULD PROBABLY BE REDUCED FURTHER WITH ADDED CONTRIBUTION BY ROK.

5. ROK DEL THOUGHT THAT HIS GOVT COULD GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER COURSE WAS DECIDED. HE ADDED THAT PERCENTAGE OF CONTRIBUTION BY HIS COUNTRY SHOULD BE INCREASED. UK DEL THOUGHT THAT IDEA WAS POLITICALLY SOUND; AUSTRALIAN DEL URGED QUICK DECISION; AND NEW ZEALAND DEL ADDRESSED HIMSELF TO QUESTION OF TACTICS IN HANDLING ITEM.

6. US REP (AMB SCHAUFELE) EXPRESSED VIEW THAT SIMPLEST METHOD MIGHT BE TO ALLOW ARTICLE 9 OF UN-ROK AGREEMENT OF NOV 6, 1959 TO COME INTO FORCE. HE COULD NOT COMMIT US GOVT ON QUESTION OF APPORTIONING EXPENSES BUT HE BELIEVED HIS GOVT WOULD BE GENEROUS.

7. GROUPS OF REPS PLANNED TO MEET AGAIN ON NOV 29. COPY OF
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DUTCH PROPOSAL PARA 4 IS BEING POUCHED TO HENNES (IO). INSTRUCTIONS REQUESTED PRIOR TO NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING.
BENNETT

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Disposition Reason:
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